

LIBRARY

MILDENHALL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



WEST SUFFOLK.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

1941.

ROBERT H. CLAYTON, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Public Health Offices,

Westgate House,

13, Westgate Street,

Bury St. Edmunds.

June, 1942.

To:-

The Chairman and Members of the

Rural District Council of Mildenhall,

in the County of West Suffolk.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lord and Gentlemen,

In submitting, for your favourable consideration, my Sixth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, being for the year ending December 31st, 1941, I wish to express my gratitude for the support and assistance of the Council and their Officers.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Lord & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBT. H. CLAYTON.

M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

also Medical Officer of Health, Cosford, Thedwastre and Thingoe Rural Districts, Newmarket Urban District and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, West Suffolk.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

H.W. Trotter, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat and other Foods Certificate, R.S.I., also Building Surveyor and Petroleum and Explosives Officer.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area	86,759 acres.	
	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population mid-year.	13,410	12,970	(a) 12,440 (b) 12,700	12,440	12,370	12,240
Number of inhabited houses at end of year according to Rate Book	3,623	3,968	3,528	3,500	3,507	3,440
Rateable Value	£49,422	£45,912	£44,038	£43,405	£42,904	£38,400
Sum represented by a Penny Rate.	£206	£191	£188	£174	£174	£174

Unemployment during the year was negligible.

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
<u>Live Births.</u> +						
Legitimate (I.M.) Total	299	197	185			
" Males	106	106	93			
" Females	103	91	92			
Illegitimate (I.M.) Total	15	5	5			
" Males	7	1	1			
" Females	8	4	4			
Legitimate (B.R.) Total	200	191	182	170	221	176
" Males	102	102	91	87	111	83
" Females	98	89	91	83	110	93
Illegitimate (B.R.) Total	15	4	5	5	7	8
" Males	7	1	1	1	4	4
" Females	8	3	4	4	3	4
TOTAL	215	195	187	175	228	184
Males	109	103	92	88	115	87
Females	106	92	95	87	113	97
Live males per 100 live females born.	103	112	97	101	102	90

+ (B.R.) & (a) for the calculation of Birth Rates.
 + (I.M.) & (b) for the calculation of Death Rates or the incidence of notifiable diseases.

	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
<u>Stillbirths.</u>	I.M. B.R.					
Legitimate. Total.	7	5	5	6	7	9
Males	2	3	3	3	3	5
Females	5	2	2	3	4	4
Illegitimate. Total.	1 Female	1 Male	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total Legitimate & Illegitimate.	8	6	6	6	7	9
Birth Rate. <u>Mildenhall</u>	16.0	15.0	15.0	14.1	18.4	15.0
<u>England & Wales</u>	14.2	14.6	15.0	15.1	14.7	14.8
Stillbirth Rate (<u>Mildenhall</u>) per 1000 total (live and still) Births	34.5	28.9	31.5	38.5	29.8	46.6

In 1941 there were no maternal deaths.

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age were 5 (2 males, 3 females) all legitimate children.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 Year.

	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936
All infants per 1000 live births.	22.3	54.5	36.8	34.3	61.4	43.5
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births	23.9	55.8	37.8	35.3	63.3	45.5
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

<u>DEATHS.</u>	Total	168	171	140	134	165	174
	Males	89	92	78	61	98	87
	Females	79	79	62	73	67	87

Death Rate per 1000
Resident Population

<u>Mildenhall</u>	Crude	12.5	13.2	11.0	10.8	13.3	14.2
	Corrected	4	11.7	9.0	8.8	10.9	11.6
<u>England & Wales</u>		12.9	14.3	12.1	12.4	12.4	12.1

∠ No corrected Death Rate can be given as an Areal Comparability Factor is not available, the Registrar-General states, owing to the variety and magnitude of local population movements throughout the Country and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	27	25	19	18	21	22
Deaths from Measles	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough.	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Maternal causes.	Nil	1	1	1	1	2

On the following page is a table giving the causes and the number of deaths occurring at the various age groups. The totals correspond with the Registrar-General's figures. The deaths are classified under the headings given in the new Abridged List of Causes, as used in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, as set out on Page XXXIX of the Manual of the International List of Causes of Deaths - 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Deaths at the sub-joined ages of
"RESIDENTS" whether occurring in
or beyond District.

S.N.	CAUSE OF DEATH.	under 1 year		1 & under 5		5 & under 15		15 & under 25		25 & under 45		45 & under 65		65 & upwards.		Registrar - General's figures.		Total =	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
5.	Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
6.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-
7.	Other Tuberculous Diseases.	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-
8.	Syphilitic Disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
9.	Influenza.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	-
10.	Measles.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
13.	Cancer of buc:cav: & oesoph (M) uterus (F)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	1	3	3	-	-
15.	Cancer of Breast.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	-	-
16.	Cancer of all Other Sites	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	3	7	2	11	5	-	-
17.	Diabetes.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
18.	Intracran:vase:lesions.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	7	5	9	7	-	-
19.	Heart Disease.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	17	16	21	20	-	-
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
21.	Bronchitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	4	7	6	8	-	-
22.	Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-
23.	Other Respir: Diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
26.	Appendicitis.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
27.	Other Digestive Diseases.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	3	2	-	-
28.	Nephritis.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	-
31.	Premature Births.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
32.	Con: mal: birth injur: infant diseases.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
33.	Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
34.	Road Traffic Accidents.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-
35.	Other Violent Causes.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	3	3	-	-
36.	All other Causes.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	2	11	6	15	11	-	-
TOTAL.		2	-	3	-	1	-	2	-	8	-	12	-	61	-	89	-	-	-
		-	3	-	1	-	3	-	2	-	6	-	16	-	48	-	79	-	-

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(ii)(a) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Service, as provided by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, at Cambridge under the Directorship of Dr. A.W. Downie, proved a very valuable addition to our public health facilities. In addition to the usual public health bacteriological examinations, the Service provided Monthly Progress Reviews, (giving information on bacteriological and epidemiological problems occurring throughout the Country), examined water samples, provided diphtheria immunisation material and measles serum, members of their staff assisted at the diphtheria immunisation and Schick testing, and Dr. Downie advised, sometimes by personal visits, on technical questions.

- (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.)
- (c) NURSING IN THE HOME.)
- (d) CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES.)
- (e) HOSPITALS.)

No Change.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1.(i) WATER.

During the year the work in connection with the Moulton Scheme was completed. This supply is now available in the parishes of Moulton, Gazeley, Kentford and Dalham. Ninety-eight connections were made in these parishes during the ten months ending December 31, 1941, including two schools and four camps.

In the Mildenhall area 381 connections were made during 1941. Included in this number are connections in respect of twelve houses and two schools where the previous supplies were found in 1940 to be unsatisfactory, and connections made to eight camps and other organisations. The total number of connections at the end of the year was 513. In many cases one connection serves more than one house or premises.

Eight new connections were made to the mains at Brandon, two of these were domestic services.

In all three Schemes the Wallace & Tiernan apparatus for Chlorination has been installed. The average daily output during the last four weeks of the year was estimated to be approximately as follows:-

Mildenhall	60,000 Gallons
Moulton	16,000 "
Brandon	50,000 "

The charges in the Mildenhall and Moulton Districts are 10% on rateable value with a minimum of 12/- per annum and 2/- per 1,000 gallons by meter with a minimum of £2. At Brandon the charge is 10d. in the £ on rateable value minimum 6/8d per annum and by meter 8d. per 1,000 gallons.

Twenty-six samples were taken from twenty sources of supply. Fourteen samples were from the Public Supplies, and, after the initial flushing of pipes at Moulton, all were found to be satisfactory. Of the samples taken from private supplies, eight sources were found to be of doubtful purity. In three cases the premises were connected to the Public Supply and it is expected that the remaining five will be by the end of 1942.

In the Fen area a piped supply is urgently needed but owing to the scattered position of farms and houses, a scheme has not yet materialised.

In Brandon a survey was made of the disused existing wells and other likely sources of supply for use in case of emergency. Samples were taken from suitable sources for Bacteriological examination and by the end of the year a scheme for submission to the Ministry of Health for approval was nearing completion.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Considerable difficulty was experienced in dealing with overfull cesspools, owing to the Scavengers being called up for service. Arrangements were made with the Mechanical Cleansing Services, Ltd., of Banstead, Surrey, for a certain number of cesspools in Mildenhall, Brandon and Lakenheath to be cleared by their vehicles when operating in the area. The work was done expeditiously and gave complete satisfaction but unfortunately the service was spasmodic. In all during 1941 the Company cleared cesspools at premises as follows:-

Mildenhall	-	47
Brandon	-	55
Lakenheath	-	1
Worlington	-	2
Barton Mills	-	3

In addition the cesspool at the Public Convenience at Brandon was cleared three times and the two tanks dealing with the sewerage from sixteen Council Houses at Brandon were also cleared.

Total number cesspool clearances in period of eight months	-	116
Average per month	-	14.4

Five new drainage systems to houses were laid and inspected and five existing drainage systems extended.

2. RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The various Drainage Boards whose jurisdiction covers rivers and streams in the area, have cleared out and deepened numerous water courses in the District as part of their agricultural policy. This work has improved the condition of the Rivers and Streams but it is causing difficulties for drinking water in the Fen areas.

3. (1) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The undermentioned conversions were carried out during the year:-

From Vault or Pail System to W.C.	-	10
" " to " "	-	11
Additional and new W.C.	-	7
" " " Pail Closet	-	1

The internal and external Conveniences of a Cinema were completely re-constructed.

Nuisances in connection with twenty closets were remedied without the necessity of serving Statutory Notices.

Pail Closets are emptied weekly in the parishes of Mildenhall (part of) Brandon and Lakenheath (part of). The numbers dealt with each week are approximately 204, 433 and 207 respectively at these places.

The Mechanical Cleansing Services Ltd., carry out this work during daylight and although some initial suspicion was voiced at the commencement, the work is carried on in daylight without giving cause for complaint.

(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING.

In view of the demands made for salvaging and collecting various waste materials for return to Industry, the Council decided to put into operation a joint refuse and salvage collecting scheme to cover every parish in the area. This materialised in December with the delivery of a Scammell Barrier loader refuse collecting vehicle. From this date the Council has collected every kind of waste material except paper. The latter continues to be dealt with by the Voluntary organisations in the parishes. The Council's vehicle collects as under:-

Mildenhall (High Town)	- Each Thursday.
Brandon	- Each Monday & Tuesday.
Lakenheath	- Each Wednesday.
Santon Downham	- First Monday in month.
Wangford	- First Tuesday in month.
Elvedon	- Second Tuesday in month.
Undley, Wilde Street and Hollywell Row	- First Wednesday in month.
Eriswell	- Second Wednesday in month.
Sedge Fen & Kenny Hill	- Third Wednesday in month.
Beck Row & West Row	- First Friday in month.
Icklingham, Cavenham, Higham, Tuddenham & Herringswell	- Second Friday in month.
Barton Mills, Worlington, Freckenham & Red Lodge	- Third Friday in month.
Kentford, Gazeley, Dalham and Moulton	- Fourth Friday in month.

Particulars of Material salvaged during 1941 can be compared with that salvaged in the last eight months of 1940 from the following table:-

Material.	Sold through Council.		Private sales.		Total 1941.		Compared with 1940 (8 months)	
	Tons.	Cwts.	Tons.	Cwts.	Tons.	Cwts.	Tons.	Cwts.
Paper	59	14	4	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	64	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	51	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Scrap iron	25	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1		26	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	60	4
Tins	12	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	1	6	13	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rags	1	16 $\frac{1}{4}$		5 $\frac{3}{4}$	2	2	1	16 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bones	3	15 $\frac{1}{2}$		3 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	18 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Miscellaneous	2	9	-	-	2	9		1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Various Metals		1 $\frac{1}{2}$	-	-	1 $\frac{1}{2}$			2

TOTAL CASH

£278.

£240.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following tabular statement has been supplied by Mr. Trotter:-

(A) Number of inspections etc.,

Inspection of Houses, Public Health & Housing Acts	137
Buildings under Building Byelaws	62
Council House Management	374
Tents, vans, sheds	21
Factories & Workshops	13
Shops	38
Schools	23
Cowsheds & Dairies	46
Butcher's Shops & Slaughterhouses	38
Bakehouses	6
Disinfections and visits in connection with Infectious Disease	21
Nuisances investigated	58
Number of samples of water taken	26
A.R.P. and Evacuation	436
Interviews re various matters other than A.R.P. and Evacuation	864
Public Convenience	90
Drainage and Cesspools	79

TOTAL

2,332

(b) Number of Notices served during Year -

Informal Notices	87
Statutory "	2

(c) Notices complied with -

Informal Notices	84
Statutory "	2

Factory Act, 1937.

Inspections of Factories (with power)	11
" " " (without ")	2

No. in which limewashing and cleansing required 4

This was subsequently carried out

(iv) SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Washing facilities and Sanitary conveniences were provided at an office at which these were previously absent. No other action was necessary.

(v) CAMPING SITES.

Visits	21
Licensed Sites (includes 3 new sites)	13
Sites used	11
Estimated number of campers (maximum)	47

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No change.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No complaint of Bed Bugs in Council or other houses was received. One house was disinfested of fleas.

4. SCHOOLS.

Twenty-three visits were paid to the schools in the area. During the year, the following schools were connected to the Public Water Supply:-

Lakenheath Moulton
Freckenham Kentford.

Defects remedied were:-

Want of cleanliness	1.
Additional W.C. provided	1.
Structural work	1.

S E C T I O N D.

HOUSING.

- 1.(1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts 280
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 492
- (2)(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under Sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 19
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 19
- (3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation -
- (4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding Sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation 201

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers

By owners	182
By Local Authority	Nil

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit
as the result of the service of
Statutory Notices Nil

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING.

It was not found possible to bring the records
of Overcrowding up to date, owing to disorganisation
of the clerical staff (three changes in 1941) and
numerous other duties owing to the War.

S E C T I O N E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Registered Cowkeepers, many of
whom are wholesale milk producers, butter
makers or produce retailers 123

Note - 51 of the above cowkeepers sell milk
by retail and are registered as retailers

Number of retailers who do not keep cows 2

Number of visits of inspection to cowsheds 46

Contraventions found (Limewashing & cleansing) 13

These were remedied as the result of informal
action.

The Committee, after carefully considering reports
on the contravention of Article 31 (2), Milk & Dairies
Order, in two cases, by filling bottles other than in
registered premises, decided to send out a warning to the
persons concerned that proceedings would be taken should
the offence be repeated.

During the month of September the Sanitary Inspectors
in my five Districts were instructed to concentrate as much
as possible on inspections of cowsheds and dairies. Early
in October a meeting was held at which their reports on
conditions and difficulties were discussed.

There is every reason in wartime why milk should not be
wasted by souring and every avoidable illness caused by un-
clean milk diverts from the national effort. To avoid this
waste and diversion the co-operation of several sections
is essential. Some examples that appeared to require
stressing were:-

The Purchaser should avoid the use of unclean
jugs or doubtful containers, and now that deliveries
are restricted to one each day the most suitable
storage place in houses, often inadequately equipped
for food storage for the family and perhaps an evacuated
family, should be used.

MILK SUPPLY (Continued)

The Retailer should be equipped with sufficient bottles to obviate the practice of refilling, before the proper washing, of bottles collected on the round.

The Wholesaler now that his inspections are curtailed by petrol restrictions should review the suitability of the wayside stands from which he collects the milk and more accurately forecast his collection time so that milk does not stand unprotected from the sun for long periods.

The Milk Producer is often handicapped by other interests, harvesting, especially in small establishments, can often upset the milking routine. He is handicapped by insufficient or unskilled or juvenile labour and many other matters, but despite his handicaps, unless his and other persons' efforts are to be of no avail, he must seek how best to balance his use of restricted paraffin needed to pump the water for his cooler, the shortage of muslins and filtering pads as of overalls and headgear. Much could be accomplished by constant provision of hand washing facilities, by readily removable blackout, by insistence on cleanliness of floors and approaches and by confining the dairy to use solely as a dairy.

The Milker is handicapped by shortage of labour, by poor artificial light owing to the blackout in the early morning - he can nevertheless develop a satisfactory realisation of the meaning of "asepsis". He can avoid "wet milking" and delay in sterilising utensils after milking.

• The Sanitary Inspector. His object is to avoid waste of milk by souring and to see that only clean milk reaches the public. His task, therefore, is to assist all concerned in milk production and distribution - to this end there appears to be nothing more important to him than regular visits and discussions. It is essential, however, that no one should be overburdened with several visits from a multitude of different officials - to prevent this the closest and happiest arrangements have been made with the County Council's Officers, responsible for the licenced milks, Officers of the War Agricultural Executive Committee and the Veterinary Surgeons of the Ministry of Health.

The inspections and discussions showed quite definitely that with goodwill all round the difficulties in providing a fresh, clean milk can be overcome.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses	5
" " " Knackers Yards	2
" " visits of inspection to above	38
" " carcasses inspected	56
	Pigs
	Sheep
	Calves

Meat unfit for food and disposed of as salvage -
Tuberculosis Other Diseases

2 complete carcasses of Pig	1 Calf
8 Pigs' Heads and Tongues	1 Sheep
1 Pluck	
1 Mesenteric Fat and Spleen	

200 Imported Eggs were also found unfit.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC. No change.

(d) CHEMICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

As required by the Ministry of Food arrangements were made to be ready for dealing with food contaminated with persistent gases. Men were recruited for a decontamination squad - seven completed an anti-gas course of training for the work. By a joint arrangement with the Newmarket R.D.C., some isolated farm buildings at Fordham have been adapted for use as a Decontamination Station. Suitable lorries for the conveyance of contaminated food have been earmarked by the Ministry of Transport for this purpose.

The Sanitary Inspector, who is the Council's Food Inspector, is in charge of the arrangements. He attended a two day course in Norwich especially arranged for these officers.

(e) NUTRITION.

Besides being benefitted by national measures to ensure a high standard of nutrition, such as the National Milk Scheme, National Wheatmeal Bread, etc., more local manifestations of interest in nutrition were the establishment of Pig Clubs, the canning of fruit and vegetables and the collection of Rose Hips.

(f) SHELL-FISH (Molluscan) }
(g) WATER-CRESS. } No change.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, & CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the number of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :-

ALL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING YEAR 1941.

<u>Disease</u>	Total Cases Noti- fied.	-1	1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	Cases admit- ted to Hospi- tal.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	14	-	1	-	1	-	5	1	1	4	1	-	-	5	-
Whooping Cough	23	2	1	4	4	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Diphtheria	10	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	2	2	1	-	-	7	1
Measles	88	-	3	10	16	4	11	10	-	2	2	-	-	-	1
	135	2	5	15	21	8	56	13	3	8	4	-	-	13	2

Preventative measures against the spread of infectious and other diseases during 1941 included the medical examination of evacuees arriving in the District, diphtheria immunisation, the issue of measles serum and measures for the detection and treatment of scabies.

The 14 cases of scarlet fever recorded above were spread over nine houses in seven different parishes and in point of time were well separated, cases being notified in the months of January, February, March, June, September and December. It was fortunate that on each occasion the disease did not spread.

Diphtheria immunisation offered to the children in the District was carried out with the complete and valued co-operation, assistance and advice of the Head Teachers, Dr. H. Roger, County Medical Officer of Health, and his Staff, and Dr. A.W. Downie, Director, Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, and his Staff. The response of parents, often despite very wintry weather, was beyond expectations, so that by the end of the year there had been immunised by the Local Authority :-

531 children under 5 years of age (estimated 48%)
1,490 " 5 years or more but under 15 years (estimated 79%).

Good as this response was there was unfortunately reason to regret that 100% did not avail themselves of this protection. Seven cases of Diphtheria occurred in the members of one household which had refused immunisation - of these two died (one in Glasgow where she had gone whilst incubating the disease). It is hoped, in order to avoid similar needless tragedies, parents will note that immunisation is still always available through application to the Head Teacher, the Child Welfare Clinic or to me.

The increase in Measles is noteworthy - fortunately there was only one fatal case.

Throughout the year the bacteriological services now available gave an added security. Use was made of Dr. Downie's Emergency Laboratory Service in connection with the Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever cases and an outbreak of Gastro-enteritis at a residential school.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during 1941.

Years	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 5	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-
5 - 15	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
15 - 25	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
25 - 35	2	1	-	-	1	2	1	-
35 - 45	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	2	4	1	2	2	3	1

The cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1941 and the same at the end of the preceding five years were as follows :-

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
31. 12. 41	11	10	12	4	23	14
31. 12. 40	12	11	11	4	23	15
31. 12. 39	15	11	13	7	28	18
31. 12. 38	16	8	13	7	29	15
31. 12. 37	20	11	13	7	33	18
31. 12. 36	18	11	15	12	33	23

